

**MINUTES OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS/LOS ALAMOS BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY MARCH 24, 2020  
VIA ZOOM DUE TO THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

**Call to Order**

Barbara Calef called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.

**Board Members Present**

Barbara Calef, Co-President  
Becky Shankland, Co-President  
Ellen Mills, First Vice-President  
Leslie Wallstrom, Second Vice-President  
Rebecca Chaiken, Secretary  
Karyl Ann Armbruster, Lunch with a Leader  
Akkana Peck, Director at Large  
Jody Benson, Publicity  
Amy Birnbaum, Reservations  
Rosmarie Frederickson, Fundraising

**Guests:** JoAnn Lysne, Newsletter  
Addie Jacobson, Special Projects

**Minutes**

The February minutes were accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report**

Kathy was absent but provided the treasurer's report. For February 2020, she reported having a checking account beginning book balance of \$3,422.48 and an ending balance of \$3,479.06, which includes total receipts of \$460; disbursements of \$403.45; and \$.03 interest. Receipts included dues and donations. Disbursements included payments to the LA Monitor and Aspen Copies along with a payment to Rosmarie for fundraising. The savings account ending book balance was \$35,786.62, which includes \$1.42 interest.

**BPU Observer Corps**

There has been no BPU meeting since the last board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for March 25 but due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the March 23 order by the New Mexico Department of Health, the public cannot attend. The meeting will be available online.

**Publicity**

The group discussed publicity for the Voter Guide. Becky suggested we send out two notifications, one next week and one the last week of April. Ellen also suggested we quickly alert the public that we are active and working on this issue. Everyone agreed on these publicity decisions and Barbara and Becky will work on a press release to send to Jody. The group also agreed that Jody should send the recent LWVNM notice about how to obtain an absentee ballot to the newspapers immediately.

### **Annual Meeting and Lunch with a Leader**

Barbara wants to conduct the annual meeting and Lunch with a Leader via Zoom and wants to send out a message to our members this week. Some members thought we should postpone the annual meeting until May and others were concerned we might not get a quorum if the meeting is held virtually. In the end it was agreed that because everyone is at home anyway, and we do not have a lot of votes to take during the meeting, we will go ahead and try the virtual meeting via Zoom. Becky specifically agreed with this decision and suggested it might cheer up our members. If Harry Burgess agrees to participate in Lunch with a Leader via Zoom this could be a positive service for the community. Jody will send out an ad to the newspapers on April 13 about Lunch with a Leader. [Note April 13: We will send information by email to members only on April 12 so that they could register first for both the L/L and the Annual Meeting. We will send an email to Friends of the League and the press approximately April 16. Will we have an ad in the newspapers?]

Participants who sign in for LWL via Zoom will be muted by the moderator but can type in questions. We will try and record the event to post later. Karyl Ann will communicate with Harry and see if he is amenable to participating via Zoom.

Because we can have a maximum of 100 participants, the Zoom link will be provided to our members but the public will need to contact us for the link if they are interested in participating. Becky will send out the information to our members.

### **Candidate Forums**

Because of the outbreak of COVID-19, we will not be able to hold our candidate forums in person. Zoom appears to be the only option. Ellen and Jody both said their other groups had used either Zoom or a similar format for candidate interviews and it worked well. Some expressed concern that not all candidates had access to good Wi-Fi and they could be disadvantaged. Under the current circumstances, however, it was agreed this was the only option and it is hoped that most candidates will have access to social media.

Regarding the forum for County Council, Barbara reported that we have 4 Democrats, 1 Republican, and 1 Libertarian. The question became do we invite all

these candidates or just the Democrats? Some were concerned that we would look too partisan if only the Democrats were invited, but others thought only candidates who are opposed should be invited.

Because of the sheer number of candidates, both for County Council and CD3, Barbara moved that we have three forums - one for the 7 CD3 Democratic candidates; one for the 5 CD3 Republican candidates; and one for County Council candidates who have opposition, along with Senate District 5, PRC, and District Attorney. This motion was seconded by Amy. Jody moved to amend this motion to include all County Council candidates and this was seconded by Akkana. A roll call vote was taken on this amendment. Barbara, Leslie, Ellen, Rosmarie, Karyl Ann, Amy, and Rebecca voted no; Becky, Jody, and Akkana voted yes. The amendment failed. A roll call vote was then taken on Barbara's original motion and it passed unanimously.

Everyone agreed that dates for the Candidate Forums will be selected via email.

### **Voter Services**

JoAnn reported that the Voter Guide is coming along well and is on track. All of the questions have been written and will be sent to the candidates on Saturday.

### **Council Report**

Rosmarie submitted her council report for March 3 to Barbara for inclusion in the next newsletter. In sum, the County Council is not in favor of resolving the bag ban.

The March 17 Council meeting was cancelled.

### **Other News**

Because we will not be able to show *The Shake Up* publicly at least for the foreseeable future, this was tabled for the time being.

Barbara, Becky, Jody, Akkana, Addie, Ellen, and Dave North continue to work on the library gallery project. They intend to share their favorite images with each other via a thumb drive or drop box.

Both Ellen and Karyl Ann have decided to withdraw as delegates to the convention, which may or may not even happen. If it does, Leslie would still like to attend.

Dave North will email the board with the information he has gathered from LANL about pit production.

### **Important Dates**

The deadline for the next newsletter is May 1.

The next board meeting will be April 28, 2020, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

*Submitted by Rebecca Chaiken*